

asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. KASICH, Mr. ARCHER, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. SHAW, Mr. TALENT, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. CAMP, Mr. FRANKS, of Connecticut, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SABO, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DE LA GARZA, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FORD, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. STENHOLM, Mrs. KENNELLY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. TANNER, Mr. BECERRA, Mrs. THURMAN, and Ms. WOOLSEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 6968(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Speaker appoints Mr. Hale of Pennsylvania as a member of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Naval Academy to fill the existing vacancy thereon.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2337. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for increased taxpayer protections.

At 6:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1627. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3235. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Office of Government Ethics for 3 years, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1114) to authorize minors who are under the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and who are under 18 years of age to load materials into balers and compactors that meet appropriate American National Standards Institute design safety standards.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3814. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Government Affairs:

Franklin D. Raines, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1989. A bill to authorize the construction and operation of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1990. A bill to reauthorize appropriations for the Civil Rights Commission Act of 1983, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BIDEN (by request):

S. 1991. A bill entitled the "Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Control Act of 1996"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1992. A bill to recognize the significance of the AIDS Memorial Grove, located in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, California, and to direct the Secretary of the Interior to designate the AIDS Memorial Grove as a national memorial; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURNS (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1989. A bill to authorize the construction and operation of the Fort Peck Reservation rural water system in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

FORT PECK RESERVATION RURAL WATER SYSTEM ACT OF 1996

• Mr. BURNS. Madam President, today, I introduce a bill that will ensure the Assiniboine and Sioux people of the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana a safe and reliable water supply system. The Fort Peck Reservation is located in northeastern Montana. It is one of the largest reservations in the United States, and has a population of more than 10,000. The Fort Peck Reservation faces problems similar to all reservations in the country, that of remote rural areas. This reservation also suffers from a very high unemployment rate, 75 percent. Added to all this, the populations on the reservation suffer from high incident of heart disease, high blood pressure, and diabetes. A safe and reliable source of water is needed to both improve the health status of the residents and to encourage economic development and thereby self-sufficiency for this area.

This legislation would authorize a reservation-wide municipal, rural and industrial water system for the Fort Peck Reservation. It would provide a much needed boost to the future of the region and for economic development, and ultimately economic self-sufficiency for the entire area. My bill has the support of the residents of the reservation and the endorsement of the Tribal Council of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes.

The residents of the Fort Peck Reservation are now plagued with major

drinking water problems. In one of the communities, the sulfate levels in the water are four times the standard for safe drinking water. In four of the communities the iron levels are five times the standard. Sadly, some families were forced to abandon their homes as a result of substandard water quality. Basically, the present water supply system is inadequate and unreliable to supply a safe water supply to those people that live on the reservation.

Several of the local water systems have had occurrences of biological contamination in recent years. As a result, the Indian Health Service has been forced to issue several health alerts for drinking water. In many cases, residents of reservation communities are forced to purchase bottled water. Not a big deal to those who can afford it, but difficult to a population that has the unemployment rate found on the reservation. All this, despite the fact that within spitting distance is one of the largest man-made reservoirs in the United States, built on the Missouri River.

Agriculture continues to maintain the No. 1 position in terms of economic impact in Montana. In a rural area like the Fort Peck Reservation agriculture plays the key role in the economy, more so than in many areas of the State. The water system authorized by the legislation will not only provide a good source of drinking water, but also a water supply necessary to protect and preserve the livestock operations on the reservation. A major constraint on the growth of the livestock industry around Fort Peck has been the lack of adequate watering sites for cattle. This water supply system would provide the necessary water taps to fill watering tanks for livestock, which in normal times would boost the local economy of the region and the State. An additional benefit of this system would be more effective use of water for both water and soil conservation and rangeland management.

The future water needs of the reservation are expanding. Data show that the reservation population is growing, as many tribal members are returning to the reservation. It is clear that the people that live on the reservation, both tribal and nontribal members, are in desperate need of a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

The solution to this need for an adequate and safe water supply is a reservation-wide water pipeline that will deliver a safe and reliable source of water to the residents. In addition this water project will be constructed in size to allow communities off the reservation the future ability to tap into the system. A similar system for water distribution is currently in use on a reservation in South Dakota.

The people of the Fort Peck Reservation the State of Montana are only asking for one basic life necessity. Good, clean, safe drinking water. This is something that the more developed regions of the Nation take for granted,